

## CONGRESS HAS RIGHT TO REGULATE TRAFFIC IN ANY COMMODITY

Far-Reaching Effect of Supreme Court's Decision in Champion Lottery Case.

ADMINISTRATION SUSTAINED.

Sherman Antitrust Law Does Not Exhaust Government's Constitutional Power Over Commerce.

MOOTED QUESTION SETTLED.

Officials Assert That Any Article Deemed Prejudicial to Public Welfare May Be Excluded From Interstate Traffic.

Washington, Feb. 24.—The decision in the lottery cases has occasioned considerable comment in Washington. Members of the administration assert that the majority of the court has fully sustained the contention that the Sherman antitrust law did not exhaust the constitutional power of the Federal Government over commerce.

A gentleman prominent in the administration said to-day:

"The Champion decision clearly sustains the contention of the Government. No important proposition in the Government's brief was rejected. The pleaders and absolute power of Congress to prohibit any form of traffic when it deems such traffic hostile to the public interests is clearly sustained."

"It must be remembered, in this connection, that prior to the President's speech of last summer many thoughtful men were of the opinion that the Sherman antitrust law marked the limit of the Federal power with reference to unlawful combinations. The President, in his speech, challenged this contention and this thought was further impressed upon the public mind by the Attorney General's address, in which he stated, contrary to the opinion of many, that the Supreme Court did not decide in the Sugar Trust suit that Congress was powerless to regulate directly the participation of unlawful combinations in interstate traffic."

"The facts in the lottery cases did not require Justice Harlan to express any opinion indirectly on this question, but the trend of his reasoning clearly indicates that Congress may exclude from interstate traffic any commodity deemed by it as prejudicial to the public welfare and that its motives are beyond judicial inquiry."

"Under the decision, such exclusion is not necessarily limited to articles of commerce which were previously regarded as innocuous. Such was the public view of lottery tickets less than a century ago."

"Justice Harlan says, in effect, that Congress could prohibit absolutely interstate traffic in intoxicating liquors if it deemed it advisable, and this notwithstanding the fact that, in the absence of congressional legislation, the introduction into States from other States of this class of merchandise as a legitimate subject of commerce may not be prevented by the States."

"The logical effect of this is that Congress has the absolute right to say when commerce in any given commodity shall be free or proscribed and it would follow that, between these extremes, it can permit such commerce upon such conditions which it may impose, to conserve the public interests, and neither the conditions nor the motives that actuate them can be reviewed by the judiciary."

**KANSAS CHAPLAIN IS REBUKED.**  
Will No Longer Give Prayers a Political Tinge.

REPUBLIC SPECIAL.  
Topeka, Kan., Feb. 24.—The members of the House this morning intimated to the chaplain that he is not expected to single out officials and pray for or against them. Hereafter he will simply appeal to the throne of grace for divine aid, and let it go—that is all.

After a long prayer this morning, Chaplain Kyle said:

"Therefore, O Lord, we pray that, that the self-respecting people of the United States in the spring and duty to a God-fearing Republic."

Balke Waggoner, the leading Democrat of the House, protested, and insisted that the House should have prayer for the President, who did not resort to such utterances. The Republican members of the House endorsed Waggoner's criticism of the chaplain.

**ISAAC B. FARMER IS SEATED.**  
Recount Gives Him Two Majority Over F. E. Cole.

REPUBLIC SPECIAL.  
Potosi, Mo., Feb. 24.—Isaac B. Farmer, Democrat, has succeeded in establishing his right on the County Court bench in the Second District. On the face of the returns F. E. Cole, Republican, was declared elected by one majority.

The recount gives Farmer the place by two majorities.

**HALF A CENTURY.**

A Prominent Politician Is Convinced.

At a recent club dinner given by newspaper men at Washington, the conversation turned upon the subject of testimonials and their value in newspaper advertising and it was not long before a prominent politician, who was present, declared that he had been converted to the value of a testimonial in a hundred is genuine."

The owner of one of the largest newspapers in the country was present and took up the subject vigorously, finally agreeing to let his opponent select any testimonial in his paper and answer to it in the same manner as the politician's satisfaction.

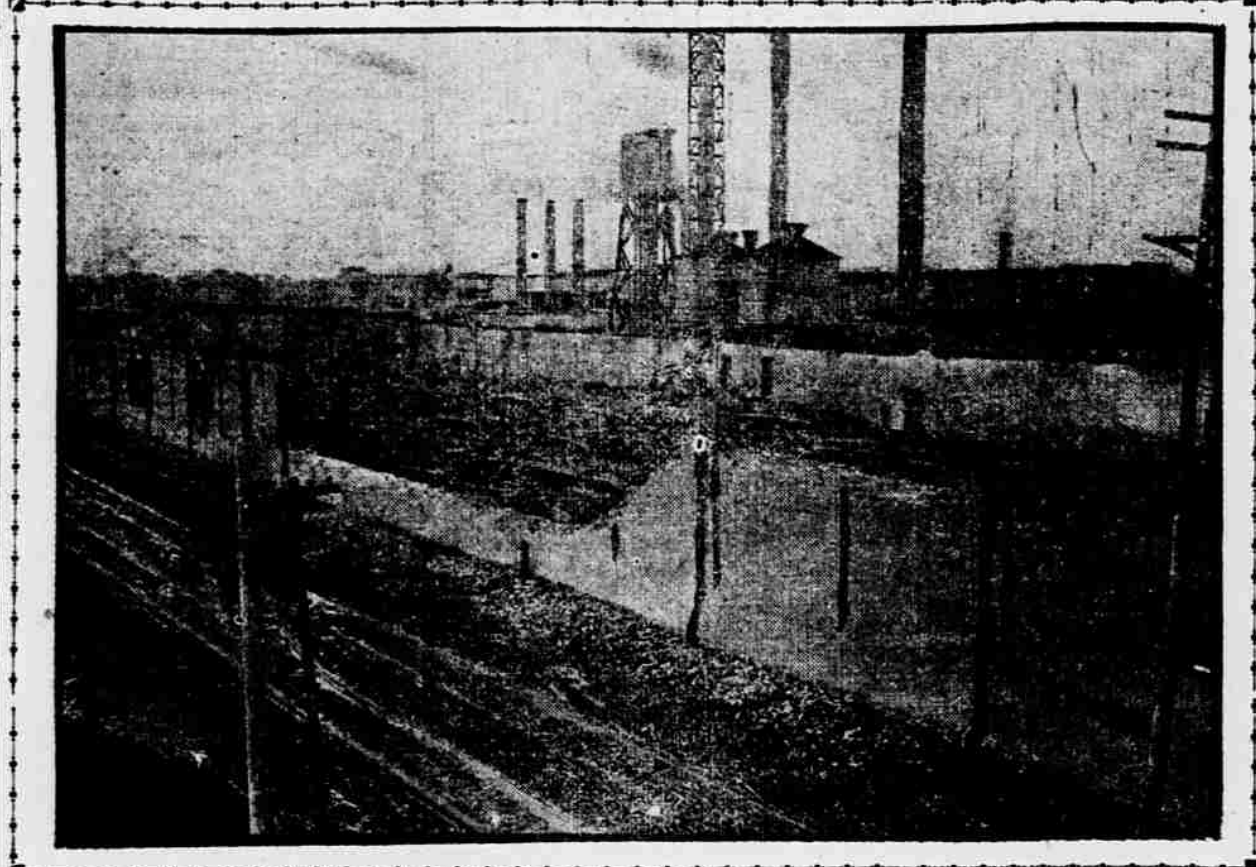
Quite by accident, the case of Mr. Newton Young of Pennsylvania, N. J., was mentioned. He had been completely cured of the Pyramid Pile Cure. The politician was especially interested in this case, as over eighty years of age and had been cured of piles after fifty years of awful suffering, and when all other remedies had failed.

It was agreed that the politician should write to Mr. George W. Scarborough, Ph. G., a prominent resident of Pennsylvania, and that the result of the controversy should rest upon his reply. The following was Mr. Scarborough's reply:

"Dear Sir:—Mr. Newton K. Young of this town, a man nearly eighty years of age, and who has been a sufferer with piles for perhaps half a century, has been completely cured by the use of the Pyramid Pile Cure. I feel especially interested in this case, as it was upon my recommendation that Mr. Young began the use of the remedy, and having used so many others. Yours truly, George W. Scarborough, Ph. G."

The Pyramid Drug Company of Marshall, Mich., have this letter in their possession and are willing to guarantee with a backing of one thousand dollars the genuineness of Mr. Scarborough's testimony.

## NEW CARS WILL SOON RELIEVE INCONVENIENCE OCCASIONED BY BURNING OF SUBURBAN SHEDS



CAR SHEDS AS VIEWED FROM ROOF OF SUBURBAN HOTEL.

Fire which destroyed the car sheds of the St. Louis and Suburban Railway Company at Maple and Hodiament avenues yesterday morning, according to the statement of General Manager Thomas M. Jenkins, inconvenience the patrons of the road but a few days, as new cars will soon be placed in operation.

Cars were running on schedule time yesterday afternoon, and it was not until the evening rush, when double the number of cars are put in operation, that the effects of the conflagration were felt.

One hundred and ten cars are required to handle the Suburban traffic during the busy hours of the evening. Fifty-five cars were running all after noon, and later five cars were added, which were tendered by the St. Louis, St. Charles and Western Railway.

It was thought that Superintendent John Grant of the Transit Company would tender the use of about twenty-five cars, but he announced that it would be impossible to do so, as the Transit Company has not enough cars to transport their patrons during the evening hours.

Manager Jenkins then took eighteen cars of the cross-town divisions, the O'Fallon Park and Union avenues lines, to ply from Fourth street to the Western terminus of the main line.

Four cars were left on each of these cross-town divisions, running from the intersection at Sarah street and at Union avenue to the end of these roads, instead of going through from Fourth street.

A force of men were put to work yesterday afternoon from the St. Louis Car Company's shops to place abandoned cars in serviceable shape.

Twenty or twenty-five new cars are expected by to-morrow from the St. Louis Car Company's shops.

As near as can be estimated from fifty-five to sixty-five cars were lost in the fire, or, as Manager Jenkins puts it, about half of the serviceable rolling stock.

"We have not been able to ascertain accurately the loss," said he. "It is supposed it will reach very close to \$200,000. Fifteen of the eighteen new cars recently put into operation, were among the property destroyed. The insurance on the new cars is the same as on the old ones, but will not compensate us for their loss. They were equipped with every modern convenience, including power brakes, which are very expensive."

Mr. Jenkins says yet has been unable to solve the origin of the fire. All that is known is that it started in the washhouse to the extreme northwest of the sheds. No one saw the blaze until it had gained enough headway to be beyond control.

The fact that there was very little combustible matter in the washhouse gave rise to a theory that the blaze had been started by an incendiary. No proof could be found, however. It is thought that the blaze originated in the main line.

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inated by two trolley wires having come in contact with each other, as there was a network of wires covering the rafters about the washroom.

The fire started about five minutes past 5. It was discovered by William Ingles, shed foreman of the company. Conductors and motormen, who were just arriving for their trips, ran into the sheds and used the hose connected with the tanks above the sheds. The fire spread so rapidly that the hose was soon abandoned, and the employees turned their efforts in trying to get the cars from the building.

FLAMES DROVE CROWD BACK.  
It was not long until the work was abandoned. The flames, fanned by a southeasterly breeze, compelled bystanders to take up their positions hundreds of feet away. Several cars which were brought half way through the Hodiament avenue doors had to be abandoned and burned to the ground on the street.

An alarm was turned in as soon as the fire was discovered, but the department did not arrive in time to be of much service. The firemen directed their efforts to the saving of adjacent property. Many of the dwelling-houses in the vicinity were scorched and front windows 100 feet away cracked from the heat.

Many of the engines on their way to the fire were stalled in the mud. The blaze illuminated the country for miles around and brought many of the residents of fashionable Cabanne the scene.

Twenty minutes after the fire started the building and contents were a total loss.

## CZAR MAY APPOINT THE HAGUE COURT

Proposal Is Made by Minister Bowen to the Representatives of Venezuela's Creditors.

DIPLOMATS LIKE SUGGESTION.

Ruler of Russia Is Considered the Father of the Great Tribunal—Protocols Arrange for Early Decision.

Washington, Feb. 24.—Mr. Bowen, the Venezuelan Plenipotentiary, has proposed to the allies that the Czar of Russia be asked to name the three arbitrators who, as The Hague tribunal, shall decide the question of preferential treatment.

The suggestion has been approved by the State Department.

In diplomatic circles, the announcement of the proposed compromise to the Czar is a subject of comment to-night. The allies have not yet signified their acceptance of the suggestion, but this is regarded as well nigh certain.

Comte Cassini, the Russian Ambassador, will not be officially informed of the fact until all the Powers have agreed to the suggestion, when he will be asked to present the invitation to his sovereign.

The Ambassador evidently was pleased on hearing this renewed evidence of friendship for his country on the part of the United States, and expressed his appreciation of the courtesy of Mr. Bowen in suggesting the Czar for this important duty.

AMBASSADOR PLEASED.  
"I can only say," the Ambassador said, "that his Majesty will deeply appreciate the compliment to him which Mr. Bowen has proposed. As the parent of The Hague tribunal, his Majesty has all along watched with gratifying interest the support the great peace court has received from the United States, for whose President and people he cherishes the friendliest esteem and regard."

At the French Embassy an official suggested that it was an especially appropriate tribute to the founder of The Hague tribunal that he be invited to select the personnel of the court which will pass on the first case to be submitted to it by European Powers.

A feature of the protocol for sending the question of preferential treatment to The Hague as proposed by Mr. Bowen is that the Court of Arbitration is to begin the consideration of the question on September 1, and that its decision shall be rendered within six months. The court shall decide when, how and by whom the arbitrations are to be held.

The presumption is by the first of next September all the mixed commissions which are to sit at Caracas and adjudicate the claims of the various nations will have passed on the claims presented.

SOME CLAIMS SMALL.  
The claims of some of the nations are small, one of them being as low as \$20,000, and the suggestion is that The Hague tribunal, in view of this fact, may prorogue the charges incidental to the arbitration according to the amount of the claims allowed. Instead of assessing each one an equal amount, Mr. Bowen thinks that the proceedings before the court should be short and simple, and believes in limiting the legal representatives to a very few persons.

Mr. Bowen has received a dispatch from Caracas, dated to-day, saying that the German commander had returned to Venezuela yesterday the warship Restaurador, which had been taken during the blockade. He also has been informed that the Germans and Italians had returned to Venezuelans and captured during the blockade.

## REVERSED FLAG OVER PUBLIC HALL IRRITATED MILITIAMAN.

Who noticed the reversed flag over "Military Hall" and requested the janitor to remedy the error.



On land and sea the national flag which displayed with the stars down indicates that some one is in distress and is a universal appeal for aid. That it also indicates trouble was demonstrated yesterday afternoon at Military Hall, Twelfth and North Market streets.

By an oversight the janitor of the building, Walter Troz, raised the flag in a reversed position early in the morning. It was not discovered until Chester A. Meyer of 100 South Broadway passed the building.

Meyer is a member of the First Regiment, N. G. M., and the signal of distress appealed to him at once. He organized himself into a rescue party and entered the saloon on the first floor of the building.

The bartender was playing cards with two friends, and everything seemed peaceful until Meyer entered. He demanded to know the reason for the reversed flag, and was told to mind his own business.

Meyer considered that the position of the flag was his business and proceeded to the fifth District Police Station, where he requested that a patrolman be sent to the hall with instructions to have the flag righted.

The police were not sure whether the reversed flag was a violation of the law, but while they were communicating with headquarters Troz was sent to the roof and placed the flag in its correct position.

"The fact that the reversed flag is universally a signal of distress," said Meyer last night, "makes it an insult to display the flag in that manner when there is no reason for doing so."

"Consequently, when I saw the flag over the hall, I thought I was within my rights as an American in requesting that it be placed correctly. As the proprietor of the hall did not seem disposed to do this, I naturally appealed to the police."

"It is my opinion that there is a Federal statute covering the matter, and that the police have the power to act in cases of this kind."

"The mistake was remedied, however, without any difficulty, although for a time I thought there might be a physical argument over the question. I asked the man who told me it was none of my business what nationality he was, and when he replied 'American,' I remarked that in my opinion he was a mighty poor one."

## EFFORTS TO REVIVE BILL WERE FUTILE

House Combine Refuses to Re-submit Ordinance Providing for Better Street-Car Service.

VOTES DOWN KARBE'S PETITION

Ignores Appeals of Citizens Urging Passage of Law Which Has Been Before Legislation Committee Since August.

ABSTENTION.  
Nays—Brennan, Buckley, Denny, Gazzolo, Hannigan, Koeln, Oberbeck, Stanze, Troil, Williams, Zachritz and Fontana—12.  
Ayes—Funch, Geraghty, Karbe, Kelly and Windmuller—5.  
Absent—Faulkner, Howard, Kinney, Klute, Murrell, Pfeifle, Standard and Sweeney.

A resolution urging immediate action on the bill providing for better street-car legislation, which has been held up since last August, caused more turmoil in the House of Delegates last night than has occurred since the days of the Cronin-Burke-Sweeney feud.

The sarcasm of the resolution, which was introduced by Delegate Karbe, aided by the remarks of Delegate Kelly, proved a thorn in the flesh of the combine which is holding up the measure, which aims to secure for the people of St. Louis better street-car service.

Speaker Fontana resorted to stringent efforts to have his brother members of the House abstain from voting on record as to their attitude on the bill.

The resolution was offered by Karbe, after a petition calling for immediate action on the street-railway bill, which he also presented. It was signed by a half-dozen business men's organizations. Speaker Fontana ignored the petition, for the reason that it was not typewritten.

Clerk Judge was reading the petition, when Fontana stopped him.

Karbe protested against the action of the speaker, declaring that the rules of the House did not require petitions to be in typewritten form, but he was pooh-poohed by Fontana, who squelched further criticism of business men by calling for the next order of business.

A few minutes later when resolutions were called for Karbe called to the speaker and waved a piece of paper above his head. Fontana ignored the Tenth Ward representative. Kelly demanded that Karbe's resolution be adopted.

"Karbe's got too much to say," replied Fontana as he instructed the page to bring the resolution to the clerk's desk.

After the resolution had been read, a protest went up from the members, who took exception to its wording, saying that they considered it a direct insult.

KELLY'S ARGUMENT.  
"You have insulted the business men of St. Louis by ignoring their petition," exclaimed Kelly, "and now you want to insult the persons who elected you to office."

"There is not a man among you who has the courage to come out and say that you are opposed to this bill which has for its object the regulation of the street-car service. Election day is coming, and mark my word, those of you who are seeking reelection to the House of Delegates will find that your success depends upon the passage of this bill. The press is clamoring for its passage, the people are crying for its passage and the street-car companies are opposing its passage."

"What reason have you for wanting to hold up this measure? Your constituents want it passed. Have you no consideration for the people who put you in office? Why do you not come out and say yes or no?"

"You will be looking for a platform on which to run for the House of Delegates in a few weeks. This street car bill that you are now holding up will be the only platform that the people will listen to. If you pass this bill you will find it a good platform, but woe be unto you if you fail to pass it and then seek reelection."

Kelly was interrupted several times by various members shouting that they were not looking for reelection. While he was speaking Fontana pounded on his desk with his gavel.

When a motion was made by Karbe to adopt the resolution, Fontana waited until a motion was made to lay the resolution on the table.

"No you don't," shouted Kelly. "None of your gag-rules will go with me. Karbe's motion was seconded, and I demand that a vote be taken on his motion to adopt the resolution. I am fully aware, Mr. Speaker, that you are afraid to go on record in this matter, but you will have to do it, and there is no way out of it. If you do not kill the resolution, say so, but do not try to sneak around the business men in such a way that you think you will not be found out."

Fontana requested Kelly to stop talking, and threatened to have him ejected. Kelly continued:

"Every member of this House has a right to state his views on a pending question, and I do not propose to be choked off by you or anybody else."

CLERK CALLS ROLL.  
Several members interposed objections to the proposition to put the question to a vote, but Fontana finally ordered the clerk to call the roll.

Buckley stated that he had not seen a copy of the bill and was not in a position to vote on the resolution. Gazzolo said he was not fair to the Committee on Legislation for the House to take hasty action. Denny said the members should be furnished with printed copies of the bill. Fontana said: "Put me down for a great, big no."

When Oberbeck made a motion to order the Committee on Legislation to report the bill at the next meeting Fontana declared he was out of order.

"You do not seem to understand the rules of this House," shouted Kelly. "Oberbeck was not fair to the Committee on Legislation. He is in duty bound to consider it. If I were you I would study up on the rules."

"Go write in your rules, yourself, didn't you?" asked Fontana.

"No, but I have read them, and that is more than you can say," answered Kelly. "Have you ever read the street-railway bill?" asked Denny of Kelly.

"Well, you just say if you have, and because you haven't is no reason why the bill should be allowed to die. It's been in this House long enough, and you ought to be ashamed to say that you have no knowledge of its contents."

"Only a year ago the members of this very House voted for an appropriation of \$50,000 to pay to a commission of lawyers to draft the same bill that you are now holding up. Do you think that is following a consistent policy?" continued Kelly. "The bill has been introduced by the Mayor. If you really want to kill the bill don't be afraid to come out and say so."

The vote was finally polled and the resolution was declared lost, twelve having voted against it and four for it.

Oberbeck then offered a motion that the Committee on Legislation be ordered to make a report on the bill at the next meeting. This motion was objected to and it was killed.

The Legislation Committee is composed of Messrs. Sweeney, chairman; Koeln, Kinney, Zachritz and Oberbeck.

Oberbeck was asked if he could call a meeting of the committee without the sanction of the chairman, and Fontana replied that he would look up the matter.

## POLICE ARE UNABLE TO LOCATE O'KEEFE

Head of Richmond Syndicate and Colonial Securities Company Disappears.

INDICTED BY GRAND JURY.

Get-Rich-Quick Concerns, Gambling and Grafting Is Further Investigated by the Body.

John G. O'Keefe of No. 519 Westminster street, head of the Richmond Syndicate and Colonial Securities Company, who has been indicted by the Grand Jury on charges of fraud and conspiracy, has not been found by detectives and Deputy Sheriffs who have looked for him since last Saturday.

O'Keefe's handsome home on Westminster place is occupied only by servants, who profess to know nothing as to the whereabouts of the master of the house.

The Grand Jury took up the investigation of the Richmond Syndicate and Colonial Securities Company's affairs last Wednesday, but they were not able to find O'Keefe. A subpoena was then sent out to bring O'Keefe before the Grand Jury as a witness, but he could not be found. The investigation continued, however, and an indictment was voted against O'Keefe.

The Richmond Syndicate was engaged in real estate, stock and bond investments, and John J. Ryan & Co., its promoters, set up the claim that the Richmond Syndicate was incorporated for stock. The Grand Jury found that it was not incorporated.

The Colonial Securities Company was in the nature of an underwriter for the business of the Richmond Syndicate. The company offered 5 per cent. to investors, and it is said to have taken in more than \$25,000.

The condition of the company's affairs has not been ascertained by the Grand Jury, but it is said that it is among the promoters of the "get-rich-quick" concerns of the city who have thus far been indicted. Previous to his embarking in the real-estate company he was engaged in various legitimate business enterprises in the city, and was said to be well off financially.

The Grand Jury's investigations yesterday included the affairs of the Richmond Syndicate, the Rialto Grain Company and the Chicago Investment Company.

Gambling and "grafting" were also touched upon. Important developments are expected when the Grand Jury meets Tuesday, when the subject of gambling, in its various phases, will be taken up.

Nearly all of the witnesses who appeared before the Grand Jury yesterday were investors in various legitimate business enterprises in the city, and were said to be well off financially.

Among those who were called to testify about matters not pertaining to the "get-rich-quick" business were J. P. Dwyer of No. 322 Chestnut street, John McMenamy of No. 219 South Broadway and Kate Brown, who lives on Chestnut street and has been made public with McMenamy and Dwyer.

Kate Brown was called upon to testify to the fact that she is among the women of the city who have been connected with the "get-rich-quick" business.

Detective McMenamy, head of the gambling squad, was in the witness-room, but was not called upon to testify. He was instructed to return at a later date.

Other witnesses were Miss May Steinmetz, a stenographer for the Rialto Grain Company; Mary Keller of No. 1011 South Seventh street, an investor; M. Horstman, cigar dealer in the Rialto Grain Company; J. L. Williams of No. 1274 South Jefferson avenue, Doctor F. R. Boyd, Century building, and A. L. Marston, an employee of the Adams Express Company.

Mrs. Keller refused the voucher for \$1 tendered her by Deputy Sheriff Dickinson after she had been before the Grand Jury. Bursting into tears as the witness fee was offered to her, she said that she had lost all her money in one of the companies, and that she did not care for the dollar.

International Investment Assignment.  
W. J. Hogue, doing business under the firm name of the International Investment Company, yesterday filed an assignment to John A. Gernez, a resident of St. Louis, of all his interest in the Lafayette Bank, \$75,000 worth of office fixtures and \$150 in the Lincoln Trust Company.

ST. LOUIS AND EASTERN RAILROAD INCORPORATES.  
Electric Line Will Run Between East St. Louis and St. Elmo—Construction to Begin at Once.

REPUBLIC SPECIAL.  
St. Louis, Mo., Feb. 24.—An interurban electric line will be built from East St. Louis to St. Elmo and eventually to Terre Haute, Ind.

The St. Louis and Eastern Electric Railroad Company was incorporated to-day, with the principal office at St. Elmo. The object is to construct and operate an electric railway from East St. Louis to St. Elmo, in Fayette County, to connect the Vandallia Railroad. The work of construction will be commenced at once.

The capital stock is \$500,000, but will be increased later.

The incorporators and first Board of Directors are: B. F. Johnson, F. M. Johnson, W. Bledsoe, J. H. Harlan, all of St. Elmo, and Representative George T. Turner of Vandallia.

A second company will be incorporated for the construction and operation of the road from St. Elmo to Terre Haute.

Johnson Bros. of St. Elmo will have charge of the construction work.

Back Broken by Fall.  
Gustave Kabus, a carpenter, living at No. 209 Mallinckroft street, fell from a scaffold while at work in a building near his home yesterday afternoon. His back was broken. Doctor Randall, at the North End Dispensary, treated him and he was sent home.

## BIG MILITIA DISPLAY AT FAIR DEDICATION

New York State Is to Send a Large Body of Troops for the Parade.

SURPRISE TO THE EXPOSITION.

Governor Odell Will Bring 100 Aids in Silk Hats, and Other States Promise Interesting Delegations.

Militia from various States and Territories will for the first time be assigned to 5,000 United States regulars at the dedication ceremonies of the World's Fair.

Letters are arriving daily showing that interest in the event is assuming enormous proportions.

New York State probably will have the largest representation of the National Guard at the ceremonies. Adjutant General at Henry has advised the management that the Legislature is expected to make